

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON ISSUING A CALL, WITH OTHER LEADING DEMOCRATS, FOR A PARTY CAUCUS ON SATURDAY, JULY 10, AT 8 P.M. AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Governor J. Strom Thurmond announced today that he and some of the nation's leading Democrats have issued a call for a Party caucus Saturday, July 10, at 8 p.m., at the John Bartram Hotel in Philadelphia, to "seek for the leader of our Party the strongest man available."

Governor Thurmond said others joining in the call are: Senator Lister Hill, of Alabama; Dr. R. B. Robbins, National Committeeman of Arkansas; I. G. Beall, State Committee Treasurer of Arizona; Governor Ben T. Laney, of Arkansas; James Roosevelt, State Chairman of California; Chester Bowles, of Connecticut; Colonel Jack Arvey, of Illinois; Joseph P. Casey, of Massachusetts; Cy Bevan, National Committeeman from Michigan; Mayor Hubert Humphries, of Minneapolis, Minn.; William Ritchie, State Chairman of Nebraska; Mayor William O'Dwyer, of New York City; Governor Beauford H. Jester, of Texas; Clinton D. Vernon, State Chairman of Utah; Governor William M. Tuck, of Virginia; Robert Tehan, National Committeeman from Wisconsin.

The statement accompanying the call for a caucus was as follows:

"We the undersigned delegates join together in our desire to hold a caucus in Philadelphia, Saturday, July 10, at headquarters of the Illinois delegation, John Bartram Hotel, 8 P. M., to achieve an open and free Democratic convention. We do this from the realization that the crisis in the world today makes it obligatory that we seek for the leader of our Party the ablest and strongest man available. We know that in so doing we are fulfilling the wishes of the huge majority of Americans who want the Democratic Party to select a candidate of such stature that the prosperity of our nation and a lasting peace for the world will become secure. It is our belief that no man in these critical days can refuse the call to duty and leadership implicit in the nomination and virtual

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election to the Presidency of the United States. It is our duty to build a platform and conduct a convention which will justify our draft of such a candidate. Until this is accomplished we have no right to ask any prior pledges from any American. We therefore invite and urge you and all others who are of like mind to meet with us in Philadelphia."

Governor Thurmond said he is especially anxious for as many of the South Carolina delegation as possible to attend this caucus. Those who attend it may find it necessary to leave for the convention earlier than they had anticipated.

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